

Think about making difference to a child in 2006

January is National Mentoring Month, so please think about making 2006 a year that you could be a volunteer that would make a difference in a child's life.

We couldn't be more pleased with this past year's results for an increase in matches both under the community-based and site-based options. If you would like to check out our program and provide your child with a friend, or to volunteer, please give us a call.

As the NFL Playoffs continue during this time, climaxing with the Super Bowl in February, a recent article in *The Denver Post* shared a side of Broncos quarterback Jake Plummer that is intriguing and tells a lot about how people perceive oth-



dennis daise

- big brothers big sisters

ers when they don't follow a certain pattern.

Plummer has grown a beard and has reasonably long hair that at times does look pretty wild. Plummer's dad related that in his business, "I have customers in various parts of the United States, and they always bring up the beard and hair."

It seems to drive people bonkers that Plummer goes against the

significance to someone else, that people in a downtown office building could be talking about it right now, that's just funny, man. Cracks me up."

Plummer's leadership has also been questioned in the past. Teammates have encouraged him to be more vocal, but Plummer feels it just doesn't come natural to him.

"The only time I would mess with

some person is if I see him giving no effort," Plummer said, "if I see him going half-speed, then I'll go after him because not once in my sports life have I ever not gone full speed."

That is quite a statement. Plummer credits his mom for that "full speed" attitude: "She used to say that people should never be judged by what they looked like or what they wore, but by their deeds."

Plummer finishes the article by telling a story in which he made the day for a little girl. When he received a smile for just being who he is was in contrast of when a writer said he was "not good enough to take his team all the way."

Plummer said, "[D]oes what that

guy wrote matter when I just made this little girl's day?"

To finish, as we start this New Year and celebrate National Mentoring Month, let me share a message from a song by Chris Rice, "Life Means So Much":

"Everyday is a journal page. Every man holds a quill and ink, And there's plenty of room for writing in

"All we do and believe and think, So will you compose a curse, Or will today bring the blessings? Fill the page with rhyming verse,

"Or some random sketching? Teach us to count the days. Teach us to make the days count.

"Lead us in better ways;

"Somehow our souls forgot Life means so much.

"Everyday is a bank account, And time is our currency, So no one's rich, nobody's poor. We get twenty-four hours each, So how are you gonna spend? Will you invest or squander?

"Try to get ahead? Or help someone who's under? Has anybody lived who knew the value of a life?

"And don't you think giving his own

"Would prove the worth of yours and mine?

"Teach us to count the days. Life means so much."

Indeed! Have a good 2006, and make each day count!

Goodland graduate and former Brewster teacher in 'Who's Who'

A Sherman Community High School graduate and former Brewster teacher has had her biographical record published in the "Silver Anniversary Edition of Who's Who of American Women" and in the seventh edition of "Who's Who in American Education for the year 2006-07."

The accomplishments of Janice Parish Scanlon, formerly of Goodland, who now lives in Sarasota, Fla., have been published in the books and are scheduled for publication in the 2007-08 edition of "Who's Who in America." Inclusion in that publication is limited to those who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their own fields of endeavor, thereby contributing to the betterment of society.

She recently helped write, edit and publish a book on the history of Ruleton and its school. Arbutus Topliff and Lois Sieck, both of Goodland, researched, copied information and sent class lists, pic-

tures from the Sherman County Historical Society and information from other publications to Scanlon. She did the typing and writing and put the pictures in appropriate places, added clip art to enhance the book, printed the books and sent out copies.

She is the daughter of Milton Parish Jr. and the late Bertha Adams Parish.

Scanlon graduated from Sherman Community High in 1958 and received the Kiwanis Scholarship at her graduation. During the summer after graduation, she was a reporter for *The Sherman County Herald*.

She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in elementary education from Fort Hays State University in 1962 and appeared on the Dean's List while there.

Her first teaching assignment was as the kindergarten and elementary music teacher at the Brewster Public Schools. She

worked there from 1962-63 then transferred to the Jefferson County Schools of Lakewood, Colo., where she taught kindergarten, first and fourth grades from 1963-81.

She served as president of the Kindergarten Teacher's Association and co-authored the kindergarten curriculum. After the curriculum was written, she was a resource teacher in the early childhood department.

It was her responsibility to train teachers and principals on how to implement the new curriculum in their schools and evaluate the pilot program. She presented the results to the school board and to parents of the pilot schools. The program became district-wide the following year.

Scanlon participated in a program at John F. Kennedy Research Center in Denver, where she filmed videos of herself teaching her kindergarten class to be sent to remote areas of the country, so untrained

Head Start teachers could pattern their teaching after her.

A movie was made to disseminate the information about this program, and Scanlon was one of the teachers used in filming. She also wrote lessons that were published to be used by these teachers.

She received her Master's Degree in gifted education from the University of Denver in 1980. Her tuition was paid by a grant she had been awarded. Following her graduation, she and her husband Joe moved to New Jersey, where she taught gifted education in the Washington Township Schools of Sewell, N.J.

Scanlon taught a pull-out program for grades three through six and then did full class enrichment for first and second graders. After her election to secretary of the New Jersey Association for the Gifted and Talented Teachers, she gave many presentations at the New Jersey State Teacher's Convention and

at the State Conference for Exceptional Children.

She was chosen to travel to China with a group of teachers of the gifted for the People to People Ambassador Program in 1990. The teachers exchanged ideas for 3 1/2 weeks with Chinese educators at nursery schools, high schools, elementary schools and universities. She presented information about the Primary Enrichment Program, for which she helped develop the curriculum, at Nanjing University.

The Quiz Bowl team that she coached was first place in New Jersey and seventh in the nation. Two of her science teams received corporate awards at the New Jersey State Energy Exposition. She was then nominated for the New Jersey Science Teacher of the Year. One of her students won first in a national invention contest, and another was the Gloucester County winner of the Geography Bee.

After her retirement, Scanlon and her husband moved to Sarasota. She has served on the Ways and Means Committee of the Palm Aire Women's Club and chaired their fashions show last year.

She serves on a committee that chooses scholarship recipients and is a member of the Nine Hole Women's Golf Association at Palm Aire Country Club. She has served as president and vice president of the association.

Scanlon is a member of the Incarnation Church and is one of Clare's Sewing Angels at St. Margaret's Church in Maggie Valley, N.C., where they spend the summer months. The Angels make tote bags that can be transformed into duffel bags, so abuse victims have something to put their belongings in when the sheriff takes them to their home to retrieve them.

Scanlon enjoys watercolor painting, golf, traveling, genealogy and reading.

If e-mail says 'you've won,' don't give account numbers; most lotteries are scams

Dear Attorney General Kline: In the past I have received both letters and e-mails informing me that I had won some foreign lottery or sweepstakes. But in the past week I received a similar e-mail message from a group claiming to be a U. S. government agency. Is this a scam as well?

Dear Kansas Consumer: For several years now, solicitations by e-mail and mail from Nigeria and other countries have been received here in Kansas and across the country as well. My Consumer Protection Division has been working hard to educate Kansas consumers about these scams.

These solicitations may come in



phill kline

- attorney general

several different forms and may vary as to the exact wording, but they generally ask you for your personal bank account information to allow them to transfer the money you've "won" or are otherwise entitled to into your account.

The reality is, they just want a fee up front and will proceed to withdraw money from your account if you give them your ac-

count number.

More and more consumers are becoming aware of these scams, so the con artists are changing their tactics to include the guise of pretending to represent official U.S. government agencies.

This latest twist to the scam uses a variety of official-sounding names or legitimate agencies — like the FBI — in an attempt to entice consumers to divulge their account numbers.

Whatever agency names are used, the scam remains the same: consumers are informed they have

won a significant amount of money and all they need to do to get this cash is to send some money up-front to pay "taxes and fees."

Here are some important tips to remember:

You do not have to pay for something you have won (taxes, handling charges or custom clearance fees, for example). If they really had millions of dollars to transfer to you, why would they need your money for fees in advance?

Do not give your bank account number or credit card number to a caller you do not know. They generally ask for the routing number from your checks — if given these numbers, this person will have ac-

cess to your checking account.

Beware of callers requesting money to be sent via wire service or overnight courier. This is a quick, easy and anonymous way for scam artists to "take the money and run," as well as to avoid mail fraud.

The only legal lottery a consumer may participate in, within the State of Kansas, is the state-run Kansas Lottery.

If you have lost money or have been contacted by telephone or mail regarding this scheme, you may file a complaint with the U. S. Secret Service, Financial Crimes Division, 1800 G Street N.W., Room 942, Washington, D.C. 20223. If you do receive a letter or e-mail

solicitation like the one's already described here, you should destroy or delete it and then warn your friends and family members, too.

Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions.

For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Second Floor, Topeka, Kan. 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

Caring for dying is part of life of a community

"Just as dying is part of the life of an individual, and part of the life and history of a family, caring for those among us who are dying is part of the ongoing life of the community," said Dr. Ira Byock.

Despite the rapid growth of the field of hospice and palliative medicine during the last decade, many patients with advanced illness lack access to quality palliative care services.

Beyond demonstrated deficiencies in end-of-life care, numerous studies have highlighted the prominent "fragmentation" of medical care as seriously ill patients are chaotically shuffled amongst varied providers and institutions. Such care can be confusing and frustrating for patients and families, and the lack of "big picture" clarity results in undue chaos, fear and anxiety.

Many are trying to better coordinate the growing clinical services



hospice services inc.

- end-of-life care

and education initiatives around end-of-life care. Critical studies had demonstrated that the provision of palliative care results in improved pain and symptom relief and increased patient and family satisfaction.

There are initiatives to improve hospice utilization in nursing homes. These efforts could reduce some of the "fragmentation" endured by many with advanced illness.

The care of patients with advanced illness is evolving. The aim is to provide all seriously and terminally

ill patients — whether cared for at the home, clinic, nursing home, hospital or other venues — access to interdisciplinary palliative care services.

Such efforts will serve as a model for the development of new systems of care for patients with advanced illness and ultimately promote compassionate communication and the relief of human suffering as essential components of good medical care.

Hospice Services Inc. has provided comfort, compassion and quality end-of-life care in northwest and north-central Kansas since 1982. The hospice interdisciplinary team includes the physician, nurse,

social worker, pastor and volunteers working with the person and family.

Written by Sandy Kuhlman, executive director of Hospice Services Inc., Box 116, Phillipsburg, Kan. 67661. Contact her or Julia Schemper at 800-315-5122. Hospices serves northwest and northcentral Kansas and has been providing end-of-life care for more than 23 years.

Comedian to perform this month in Oberlin

Sam Griesbaum, a stand-up comedian, will appear at 6:30 p.m. Mountain Time on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Morgan Theater of The Gateway in Oberlin.

Mr. Griesbaum has performed at colleges and clubs across the country with great response for over 20 years.

He describes his style as laid-back style and down-home. A country boy dealing with the hazards of modern life, he offers a common-sense approach to problems and strange situations. He draws on real

life for most of his humor, discussing family, farming, hunting, fishing, politics, kids, married life and all points in between.

The comedian has shared the stage with country acts, including the Oakridge Boys, Brooks and Dunn, Louise Mandrell, Patty Lovelace, Reba McEntire, the Sons of the Desert, Toby Keith, Marty Stewart, Tracy Lawrence, Aaron Tippin, Tim McGraw, John Michael Montgomery, REO Speedwagon, Pride, Collin Raye, the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Lone Star

and Black Hawk Charlie.

He has appeared on: Showtime's National Lampoon comedy special, A&E's "An Evening at the Improv," Comedy Central, TNN's Statler Brothers Show, TNN's "Comedy Roundup", TNN's "Music City Tonight with Crook and Chase," and TNN's "Prime Time Country."

Admission is an Oberlin Arts and Humanities season ticket event or at the door. For details, call Ella Betts (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel, (785) 475-3329.

matters of record

Real Estate
The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:
J. Kendall Cooper and Jacque S. Cooper to Leo Walz, Lots 6

and 7 and N/2 Lot 8, Block 16, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

J. Kendall Cooper and Jacque S. Cooper to Leo Walz, S/2 of Lot 5 less N8.5' of the E51' and all Lot 6,

Block 26, Beahm's Addition to the City of Goodland.

J. Kendall Cooper and Jacque S. Cooper to Leo Walz, Lots 7 and 8, Block 30, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

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